

Shackan nursery provides indigenous plants

The Shackan Nursery is an aboriginal owned and operated facility supplying native deciduous plants to a variety of clients and customers.

We meet large industrial needs as well as those of individual homeowners.

The Nursery Program is a project of the Nicola Watershed Stewardship and Fisheries Authority, the fisheries department of the Nicola Tribal Association.

LARGE ORDERS AND INDUSTRIAL SOLUTIONS

The Shackan Nursery successfully undertakes contracts for custom propagation, to the client's specifications, of large quantities of rootstock destined for large scale landscape restoration. The most typical example is our contract with a large open pit mining company that is restoring the landscape to a natural ecosystem containing appropriate indigenous species supplied by the

Shackan Nursery.

Typical species used in landscape-scale plantings are trembling aspen, willow, cottonwood, saskatoon and wild rose. Planting sites for these species are selected for appropriate characteristics, such as soil types and micro-climates, within the overall restoration area. These species are most often provided in plug sizes of 105, 170 and 340 ml, but other client

specifications can be accommodated.

RIPARIAN AREA RESTORATION: SITE SPECIFIC SOLUTIONS

Smaller quantities of the most popular species for riparian area planting are usually in stock,

but customers placing larger orders are advised to order as far in advance as possible to ensure sufficient supply.

Rooted stock or seedlings started in the early spring can be ready for planting in the fall of

the year at age 0+, the following spring

at age 1, or the following fall at age 1+. The older the plant, the larger the rootball, and the more robust it is.

Generally the best results for riparian area planting are obtained from rootball sizes ranging from 340 ml to 2 gallons, with ages ranging from 0+ to 2+.

A wide variety of riparian species is available: river birch, river alder, willow, cottonwood, red osier dogwood and black hawthorn. Also, wild rose can be planted almost anywhere with good drainage, while trembling aspen's requirements for soil and moisture are more restrictive.

HOMEOWNER SOLUTIONS:

LANDSCAPING WITH INDIGENOUS PLANTS

As water conservation and the "human footprint" become more of a concern, homeowners are turning to native plants to landscape their properties with eco-friendly, hardy and colorful

species such as saskatoon, wolf willow, sumac, wild rose and chokecherry. Once established, these plants are relatively low maintenance and provide food and shelter for many species of birds, thus contributing to the overall health of the environment.

A variety of species is available in rootball sizes ranging from 1 through 5 gallons. The larger sizes are recommended in order for plants to quickly establish themselves, reducing the need for cultivation and maintenance. Other commonly propagated species such as alder, cottonwood, willow, river birch, and Douglas maple are suitable for gully areas, shaded areas, and stream or lakeside locations.

Our plants are generally given an early start in one of the greenhouses, but in most cases

are soon transferred to the outdoor growing area where they are subject to the

natural environmental influences of sun, wind and rain.

All nursery stock intended for riparian area restoration or home landscaping is collected from various locations within the

Nicola Watershed.

For custom propagation orders, nursery staff will collect donor seed or cuttings from

locations as specified by the client, or will supply the donor stock from biogeog-

climatic areas in the Nicola Watershed similar to the location being re-vegetated.

Our facility is located on Shackan Indian Reserve beside Highway 8, adjacent to Skuhun Creek,

NTA: P.O. Box 188 • Merritt, BC • V1K 1B8
Tel: (250) 378-4235 • Fax: (250) 378-9119

Nooaitch



(250) 378-6141

Upper Nicola



(250) 350-3342

Shackan



(250) 378-5410

Siska



(250) 455-2219

Coldwater



(250) 378-6174

Cook's Ferry



(250) 458-2224

Nicomén



(250) 455-2514

LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD.

The NTA News wants your stories, photos and coming events about the Nicola Tribal Association community. We welcome authentic First Nations voices from the seven bands in our region, and writers of all ages. Whether it's a sports outing, a cultural event or something happening at your schools, take a picture and send it in. If you have an upcoming event, let us know. Letters to the NTA News are also welcome. Please send submissions to newsroom@merrittherald.com, or drop them off at the Merritt Herald, 2090 Granite Avenue. For advertising, contact Etelka Gillespie at 378-4241, or email to sales@merrittherald.com.